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NEWSLETTER SET BY NEW REPUBLIC

Biweekly Publication Will
Be Offered in January

By MARTIN ARNOLD

The New Republic will start publishing in January a biweekly newsletter by Tristram Coffin called The Washington Spectator.

Robert J. Myers, the magazine's publisher, says the new newsletter is intended to fill the gap left when I. F. Stone retired his I. F. Stone's Weekly, perhaps the most famous political and investigative newsletter, to become a contributor to The New York Review of Books.

Mr. Myers said the new newsletter already had 200 subscribers and would become profitable with a total of 4,000.

The weekly New Republic will drop its syndication of columnists, except for the one signed for about 30 years by T.R.B., who is Richard L. Strout, a Washington correspondent for The Christian Science Monitor.

About 50 newspapers buy T.R.B. from The New Republic.

In 1970, The New Republic syndicated a weekly column by Ralph Nader, the consumer advocate, which gained 80 newspapers. Mr. Nader has switched to syndication by The Des Moines Register.

Mr. Myers said he had found that for the magazine "syndicating columnists was more trouble than it was worth."

The other columnists syndicated by the magazine were Stanley Karnow, who wrote on foreign affairs, and Gene Corea, a feminist, whose column sold to only 12 newspapers and who is going to try to syndicate her column herself. "We are looking for someone to take over the syndication of the Karnow column," Mr. Myers said.

Meanwhile, U.S. News & World Report announced yesterday that after the first of the year it would publish its own weekly Washington newsletter to be called The U.S. News-Letter.

It will be edited by Paul G. Hencke, until recently one of the editors of The Kiplinger Washington Letter, and it will aim for business and professional readers.

The Washington Spectator will cost \$10 a year for charter subscribers and \$12 a year for others. The U.S. News-Letter will cost \$28 a year for subscribers to the magazine who also want to subscribe to the newsletter as charter subscribers, and \$35 a year for others.

L Washington Spectator

P- Coffin, Tristram

P- Myers, Robert J.

SOCH.01.1 U.S. News & World Report

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P- Hencke, Paul G.

MORI/CDF